

RE: SB 205

Dear Senators,

I am writing to tell you about just some of the violent acts that my co-workers and I have been subjected to. I currently work in a locked psychiatric unit, and many believe that the environment/specialty area I work in excuses the violent behaviors of patients.

I personally have been subjected to numerous accounts and cannot recall specific dates. I have been punched in the face, pinched, kicked, spit on, yelled at, cursed at, and have had my life threatened. I have personally observed a patient bite into a co-worker to the point where staff was unable to prevent the patient from taking a 2 inch by 2 inch section of skin from his arm. I have also observed a co-worker getting kicked in the abdomen, resulting in broken ribs. Another co-worker got kicked in his knee from the side resulting in fracturing his knee cap. This co-worker ended up having to have two surgeries.

I strongly believe that individuals who lash out at those who are trying to care for them need to be held accountable for their action.

Thank you.

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